

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

CRM-M No.61745 of 2023

Date of decision: 16th April, 2024

Manpreet Singh @ Manna

... Petitioner

Versus

State of Haryana

... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANJARI NEHRU KAUL

Present: Mr. Manvinder S. Sidhu, Advocate for the petitioner.

Ms. Trishanjali Sharma, Dy. Advocate General, Haryana
for the respondent/State.

MANJARI NEHRU KAUL, J. (ORAL)

1. The petitioner is seeking the concession of bail under Section 439 Cr.P.C. in case FIR No.329 dated 10.11.2022 under Sections 302/34 of the IPC registered at Police Station Kalanwali, District Sirsa.

2. Learned counsel for the petitioner inter alia contends that the petitioner having been falsely implicated in the case at hand finds due credence from the fact that while stepping into the witness box, all the material witnesses including the complainant had not supported the case of the prosecution as a result of which they were all declared hostile. Learned counsel has submitted that in the circumstances, as the petitioner has been in custody since 16.11.2022 his further

incarceration would serve no useful purpose, more so since there is no likelihood of the trial concluding in the near future as 20 prosecution witnesses still remain to be examined. A prayer has therefore, been made for extending the concession of bail to the petitioner.

3. Per contra, learned State counsel while opposing the prayer and submissions made by the counsel opposite, on instructions, has drawn the attention of this Court to the following allegations levelled in the FIR in question:

“I have two sons and one daughter. My daughter Lovepreet Kaur was married to Manpreet Singh son of Ravinder Singh @ B.O., resident of village Kalanwali in the year 2014. My daughter is having two daughters. Due to born of baby girls to my daughter Lovepreet Kaur, her mother-in-law and her husband Manpreet Singh were not happy. They used to beat and harass my daughter. Today on 09.11.2022 afternoon my daughter Lovepreet Kaur talked to her mother over phone No.77079-24991 and told that her husband Manpreet Singh and her mother-in-law used to beat her and she is coming to village Beniwal after leaving children there. After some time, my son-in-law (Jawai) told to my wife Sukhwinder Kaur over phone that Lovepreet Kaur had hanged herself and died. My wife told this thing to me and on this information, I, my wife and other people of the village reached in the house of my daughter in village Kalanwali then the dead body of my daughter Lovepreet Kaur was kept in the courtyard. I and my wife Sukhwinder Kaur have done full satisfaction that my daughter has been murdered by her husband Manpreet Singh and her mother-in-law.

Therefore, action be taken against Manpreet Singh and his mother.”

4. Learned State counsel, on further instructions, has submitted that all the material witnesses including the complainant had been declared hostile during trial, however, there were serious allegations levelled against the petitioner of having strangled his wife i.e. the complainant with a Duppatta after administering sleeping pills to her.

5. Learned counsel for the petitioner has, however, controverted the submissions made by the learned State counsel and has submitted that there was no medical corroboration on record with respect to the deceased having been administered any poison much less sleeping pills, as had been falsely alleged in the FIR in question.

6. Learned State counsel has, however, not disputed the status of the trial and has, on further instructions, informed the Court that the next date of hearing fixed before the trial Court is 31.05.2024 when some of the remaining 20 prosecution witnesses are likely to be examined.

7. I have heard learned counsel for the parties and perused the relevant material on record.

8. The petitioner has now been in custody since 16.11.2022 and there is no likelihood of the trial concluding in the near future as 20 prosecution witnesses still remain to be examined. In addition to this, all the material witnesses including the complainant already stand

